

Union Hotel (Cooper Mine Inn)
West side Old Mine Road
Millbrook Vicinity
Panaquarry Township
Warren County
New Jersey

HABS
NJ,
21-MILBROOK,
3-

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

UNION HOTEL (Copper Mine Inn)

HABS NO. NJ - 740

Location: West side of Old Mine Road, approximately 3 miles south of Shoemakers, Pa., Millbrook vicinity, Pahaquarry Township, Warren County, New Jersey.

USGS Bushkill Quadrangle, Universal Transverse Mercator
Coordinates: 18.497000.4542270.

Present Owner: United States Government (1980).

Present Use: Tavern

Significance: Architecturally much altered, the structure is notable for its association with the Shoemaker Family, and its role as a ferry site and a hotel for raftsmen throughout the nineteenth century.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

1. Date of erection: ca. 1795. Henry Shoemaker probably built this house shortly after his arrival in Pahaquarry Township ca. 1790.
2. Architect: Not known.
3. Original and subsequent owners: In 1789 Henry Shoemaker sold his land holdings across the river. (Deed, 4 Sept. 1789, recorded 7 Sept. 1789, Henry and Samuel Shoemaker et ux., of Lower Smithfield Township, Pa., to Isaac Humphreys of Burlington. Vol. F-1, page 584, Easton, Pa. Copy in possession of Mrs. Horace Walters, East Stroudsburg, Pa.). He is said to have moved at about that time to Pahaquarry Township, then part of Walpack Township, but his acquisition of this property could not be located. The following is an incomplete chain of title to the land on which the structures stand. Reference is to the County Clerk's Record Room, Hall of Records, Sussex County, New Jersey.

1826 Orphans Court Minutes, August 1826 Term
Book 1, page 19
Notice: Henry Shoemaker died seized of 334 acres in Pahaquarry Township, bounded by lands of Samuel Shoemaker (son), the Delaware River, and heirs of William Plumsted; notice is given to Margaret Shoemaker, widow, of intent to divide real estate.

- 1826 Deed: 9 August 1826 Recorded 22 Aug. 1826
Book 2, page 336
Margaret Shoemaker, widow of Henry Shoemaker, of Pahaquarry
Township, New Jersey
to
Daniel Shoemaker and other heirs of Henry Shoemaker
Consideration: \$800
Acreage: 34
Grant: right of dower.
- 1826 Orphans Court Minutes, August Term 1826
Book of Divisions, Vol. 1, page 47-49
Notice: Division of Real Estate of Henry Shoemaker,
deceased
Grant: Lot. No. 1 to Mary Jayne, No. 2 to John
Shoemaker, No. 3 to Daniel Shoemaker, No. 4
("the house lot") to Sarah Rosenkranz (10 acres),
No. 5 to Susannah Decker, No. 6 to July Ann
Turn, No. 7 to Moses Shoemaker, No. 8 to Samuel
Shoemaker (88 81/100 acres; one point common to
the original tract). Surveyed Oct. 2-4, 1826.
- 1870 Deed: 20 January 1870 Recorded 24 January 1870
Book 76, page 602.
Samuel Shoemaker of Pahaquarry Township
to
Moses Shoemaker, son,
Consideration: \$8,000.
Acreage: 448 acres in several tracts, (1) 33
and 57/100 acres (2) 10 acres (3) 45
(4) 88 and 81/100 acres (5) 245 and
50/100 acres (6) 25 and 60/100 acres
Grant: (1) the western corner of lot No. 2
(2) "known in the division (of the real
estate of Henry Shoemaker)...as the House
lot..." (3) "Lot No. 5." (4) "Lot No. 8
known as the Samuel Shoemaker lot in the
aforesaid allotment" (5) "the timber tract"
(1 December 1861 from Moses and Sarah Shoe-
maker, Book 54, page 28.) (6) Tocks Island.
Tracts (2) and (3) were grants of title from
Sarah Rosenkrantz and Susannah Decker to Samuel
Shoemaker; these titles have not been located.

- 1876 Deed: 3 January 1876 Recorded 4 April 1876
Book 96, page 332.
John Gardner, Sheriff
to
Bartly D. Fuller and others
Consideration: \$2,500.
Acreage: several tracts (1) 33 57/100 acres
(2) 10 acres (3) 45 acres (4) 88 and
81/100 acres (5) 245 and 50/100 acres
Grant: Writ of Fieri Facias, Bartly D. Fuller
and Brandenah, ux., and Mary Ann Shoemaker
vs. Moses C. Shoemaker and Caroline J. Shoemaker, ux., and Samuel H. Lauterman regarding
certain mortgaged premises. All of the tracts
were to be sold at public vendue on Saturday 25
March 1876; Fuller and Mary A. Shoemaker
purchased the properties.
- 1884 Deed: 8 March 1884 Recorded 18 May 1887
Book 133, page 609
Mary Ann Shoemaker of Pahaquarry
to
Bartley D. Fuller and Blandina, ux., of Wallpack
Consideration: \$1.00
Acreage: Several tracts (1) 33 and 57/100 acres
(2) 245 and 50/100 acres
Grant: quit claim
- 1884 Deed: 9 April 1884 Recorded 18 May 1887
Book 133, page 607
Bartly D. Fuller and Blandina
to
Mary Ann Shoemaker
Consideration: \$1.00
Acreage: 1/2 acre
Grant: a quit claim on "a certain lot of land
with a tenant house thereon erected" now
in possession of David Shoemaker.
- 1904 Deed: 1 September 1904 Recorded 15 April 1905
Book 178, page 292
Blandina Fuller of Pahaquarry
to
Moses C. Fuller of the same place
Consideration: \$3,000.
Acreage: (1) 88 (2) 22

- 1909 Deed: 1 October 1909 Recorded 2 October 1909
Book 189, page 7.
Moses C. Fuller, widower of Brooklyn, New York
to
Ernest von Hagen of Pahaquarry
Consideration: \$1.00
Acreage: 86 and 7/100
- 1917 Deed: 23 April 1917 Recorded 30 April 1917
Book 207, page 641.
Edward J. Vosler, Sheriff
to
Moses C. Fuller of Brooklyn, New York
Consideration: \$2,500.
Acreage: 86 and 7/100 acres
Grant: Writ of Fieri Facias issued 17 February
1917 from the Court of Chancery. Moses C. Fuller
vs. Ernest von Hagen and Margaret von Hagen, his
alleged wife, and Mrs. Ernest von Hagen, his
legal wife; and Otto von Hagen, Caroline von
Hagen, Rudolph von Hagen, Emily von Hagen, and
the Inhabitants of the Township of Pahaquarry,
regarding certain mortgaged premises to be sold
to furnish Fuller with the principle and interest
of a mortgage given by von Hagen. Reference is
made to the records of the Court of Chancery,
Book Z-9, of Executions, page 888. The Sheriff
published the sale in the Warren Journal and The
Washington Star; the sale was held 31 March 1917.
- 1919 Deed: 1 October 1919 Recorded 28 September 1921
Book 223, page 250.
Moses C. Fuller and Anna M. Fuller of Brooklyn
to
Rudolph von Hagen of Pahaquarry
Consideration: \$1.00
Acreage: 86 and 7/100
Grant: "all that certain farm, buildings, premises
and tract or parcel of land and premises"
- 1923 Deed: 5 April 1923 Recorded 11 April 1923
Book 230, page 22.
Rudolph von Hagen and wife, Emily
to
Ralph von Hagen et al. and George Boxold of Brooklyn
Consideration: \$1.00
Acreage: 86 and 7/100

- 1936 Deed: 7 April 1936 Recorded 8 April 1936
Book 280, page 2.
George Boxold, widower
to
Harold Blauvelt of Maplewood
Consideration: \$1.00
Acreage: 86 and 7/100 acres
Grant: no mortgage
- 1938 Deed: 25 April 1938 Recorded 3 May 1938
Book 286, page 588.
Harold and Gladys Blauvelt of 46 Parker Avenue,
Maplewood, New Jersey
to
Elsie von Hagen, of 103 Rutherford Avenue, Rutherford, New
Jersey.
Consideration: \$1.00
Acreage: 86 and 7/100
Grant: Being the same land conveyed by Moses C.
Fuller to Rudolph von Hagen, expecting the lands
grants to Karl Stoll in 1922, Book 227, page 178,
and to the Township in 1937.
- 1965 Deed: 4 March 1965 Recorded 12 May 1965
Book 466, page 896.
Elsie von Hagen and Ralph von Hagen
to
Elsie, Ralph, and Donald T. von Hagen, as joint tenants,
survivorship
Consideration: \$1.00
Acreage: 86 and 7/100 acres
Grant: Being the same premises conveyed by Harold
Blauvelt and Gladys, ux., to Elsie von Hagen 25
April 1938, reference being made to Book 286,
page 588.

4. Original plans and construction: Although local tradition has associated the year 1710 with the structure, it is far more likely to have been the work of Henry Shoemaker, ca. 1795. When Henry Shoemaker's real estate was partitioned among his heirs, "the house lot" went to his daughter and eldest child, Sarah, wife of Simeon Rosenkranz. At what point in time Samuel Shoemaker acquired the house lot from his sister has not been determined, but he is known to have operated the Old Union Hotel on this site for much of his lifetime (Walters).

The original five-bay structure was a two-and-a-half-story dwelling, constructed of rubble stone. The interior was originally divided by a central hall which contained a staircase to the second floor. In addition, there was a large, arched

fireplace, and, according to Henry Shoemaker's Inventory, a "garret" equipped with furniture. ("Inventory of the Goods and Chattels of Henry Shoemaker," 15 Dec. 1824 Inventory Book "E", p. 138, Sussex County Hall of Records, Newton, New Jersey).

Outbuildings: The inventory also referred to "Hay in the Barrick." The barrack, a hay and cattle storage structure consisting of four poles and an adjustable roof, was used in Continental Europe during the Middle Ages, and was brought to the New World by Dutch and German emigrants. It appears to have been a common feature in the Delaware Valley.

The large frame barn, said to be as old as the dwelling, is composed of hewn-oak framing, which rests on a stone foundation. The windows and some of the interior features have been altered.

5. Alterations and additions: According to Ralph and Donald von Hagen, in 1908, Ernest von Hagen raised the structure by adding a third story constructed of wood frame sheathed by clapboards. The von Hagens replaced the earlier wooden porch which surrounded the structure with the present porch, and they extensively renovated the interior. They installed the partitions which form the present barroom in 1947, removed the older ceilings, and introduced plumbing to the structure. Located between the house and the barn, the springhouse was damaged by a flood in 1955. Stones were removed to make an outdoor grill.

B. Historical Events and Persons Connected with the Structure:

Henry Shoemaker conducted a ferry at "Shoemaker's Eddy" adjacent to the site of the present structure. During the Revolution, he served as Captain in the Fifth Battalion of Northampton County (Pa.) Militia (1780-1782), and with the Rangers on the Frontier. He married: (1) Blandina Van Campen (1756-ca. 1795), daughter of Col. John Van Campen of Shawnee, ca. 1779; (2) Anna Boys (d. pre-1800), daughter of John Boys of Stroudsburg; and (3) Mrs. Margaret Chambers Wills, daughter of Col. John Chambers, 1800.

Henry's son Samuel undertook the operation of the ferry by at least 1812, and, presumably later, managed the Old Union Hotel. Like the enterprise run by his uncle Moses Shoemaker (HABS No. NJ - 824), Samuel Shoemaker's hotel was a lodging-place for raftsmen. For an unspecified time, Samuel Shoemaker served as postmaster, and maintained the Post Office in his home. The hotel and ferry continued in operation under Moses Chambers Shoemaker, son of Samuel, and later became known as the Fuller, and the Lutz, Ferry.

Under the ownership of the von Hagens, the house functioned as a boarding-house. The ferry appears to have ceased to function about the time the property was acquired by the von Hagens (Walters).

C. Sources of Information:

"Inventory of the Goods and Chattels of Henry Shoemaker"
15 Dec. 1824.

Inventory Book "E", page 138. Sussex County Hall of Records,
Newton, New Jersey.

Souder, Norman. "Historic Structures, Delaware Water Gap National
Recreation Area." Ms. report. Office of Archaeology and Historic
Preservation, National Park Service, July 1967.

von Hagen, Ralph and Donald. Interview, 9 August 1971, Copper Mine
Inn, Pahaguarry Township, New Jersey.

Walters, Elizabeth D. "Capt. Henry SHOemaker (1755/6-1824)." Typed
manuscript. Files of the National Park Service, Delaware Water
Gap National Recreation Area.

Walters, Elizabeth D. "The Delaware: Shawnee to Walpack." Typed
manuscript, October 1941. Files of the National Park Service,
Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area.

Prepared by: Lynn Beebe Weaver
Project Historian
HABS
August 1971

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: Of the original late eighteenth century building, only the two-story stone walls remain.
2. Condition of fabric: good.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: The three-story structure has a five-bay front. There are several additions on the rear.
2. Foundations: rubble stone.
3. Wall construction, finish, and color: The first two stories have stone walls which are stuccoed on the ends but exposed on the long side. The third floor has novelty siding over frame.

4. Porches: The one-story porch on the north and west sides has Doric-style wooden columns and a stone foundation. The porch is screened on the south side.
5. Chimneys: There are three brick chimneys, one on each gable end.
6. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: The west (front) elevation has a modern panel door.
 - b. Windows: The windows have two-over-two-light double-hung sash. The moldings are very plain.
7. Roof: The low-pitched gable roof, covered with sheet metal, has a plain box cornice.

C. Description of Interior

The interior was not accessible to this researcher. It has apparently been remodeled to accommodate the barroom and pool hall.

D. Site

1. General setting: The structure faces west toward the river.
2. Outbuildings: The outbuildings consist of a frame bank barn, a deteriorating stone springhouse, and various other sheds and structures associated with the campground operated by the owners.

Prepared by: Robert C. Giebner
Project Supervisor
HABS
August, 1967

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) in cooperation with the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, supervised by the National Park Service and funded by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The project, which extended from 1967 to 1971, was under the general direction of James C. Massey, Chief of HABS. The architectural data was written in the summer of 1967 by Robert C. Giebner, project supervisor. The historical data was written by Lynn Beebe Weaver, project historian, in 1971. The written data was edited for transmittal to the Library of Congress in the summer of 1980 by Alison K. Hoagland of the HABS staff. The photographs were taken by George A. Eisenman in 1967.